

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 248158

62

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TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 344

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR

SUBJ: JOBERT'S REMARKS ON ENERGY ACTION PROPOSAL

1. NEW YORK TIMES OF DECEMBER 20 CARRIES ARTICLE BY CLYDE FARNSWORTH ON EC REACTION TO YOUR ENERGY PROPOSAL. ARTICLE QUOTES JOBERT AS STATING IN COPENHAGEN THAT INVITATION TO PRODUCER NATIONS TO JOIN ENERGY ACTION GROUP INSERTED IN PILGRIM SPEECH ONLY AT LAST MINUTE AND AT HIS URGING.

2. OPERATIVE PORTION OF ARTICLE READS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE IT WAS INITIALLY CONCEIVED OF AS AN ORGANIZATION OF CONSUMER COUNTRIES, BUT IN THE FINAL DRAFT OF THE LONDON SPEECH, AFTER A BREAKFAST MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY KISSINGER AND THE FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER, MICHEL JOBERT, IN BRUSSELS, THE TEXT SAID: "THE PRODUCING NATIONS SHOULD BE INVITED TO JOIN IT FROM THE VERY BEGINNING WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST."

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IN COPENHAGEN, MR. JOBERT TOLD REPORTERS THAT THIS PASSAGE
HAD BEEN INSERTED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT FRENCH ANXIETIES
THAT ANY NEW ORGANIZATION OF CONSUMER COUNTRIES WOULD BE
CONSIDERED UNFRIENDLY BY ARAB PRODUCING COUNTRIES THAT
FEAR THE INDUSTRIAL NATIONS' GANGING UP AGAINST THEM.
UNQUOTE.

3. WE SUGGEST THAT IN RESPONSE TO PRESS OR OTHER QUERIES
WE SAY THAT IN ACCORD WITH USUAL PRACTICE YOU HAD CON-
SULTED A NUMBER OF ALLIES PRIOR TO MAKING THE ENERGY
ACTION GROUP PROPOSAL AND THAT THE PROPOSAL AS MADE
REFLECTED CERTAIN OF THE COMMENTS YOU HAD RECEIVED.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR INSTRUCTIONS. RUSH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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